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Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrated

September 21, 2011

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, as well as the Spanish and Latino Student Association (SALSA), will host a variety of events on Illinois Wesleyan University's campus.

Hispanic Heritage Month is nationally observed from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 each year. The celebrations begin in the middle of the month in honor of the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sept. 18, respectively. Initiated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in September of 1968, the event was first named National Hispanic Heritage Week. In 1988, it was extended to a month long celebration.

The following is a schedule of events:

Friday, Sept. 23: Javier Mendoza Concert - The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 8 p.m. in the Young Main Lounge of the Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington).

Friday, Sept. 30: Dia del Estudiantes – SALSA, in conjunction with the IWU Admissions Office and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, will host a group of students from Bent and Cedar Ridge elementary schools. The program aims to promote the importance of a college education through a variety of activities. Contact Admissions at (309) 556-3031 if you would like to help.

Saturday, Oct. 1: El Baile (The Dance) – The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 7 p.m. in the Young Main Lounge.

Thursday, Oct. 6: "From Aztecs to Latinos: What's in a name?" – Featured speaker and cultural activist Angel Loredo will visit campus at 7 p.m. in the Davidson Room of the Memorial Center.

October 11: 5 p.m. Turfler Room - "Department of Hispanic Studies Annual Dinner"

The Department of Hispanic Studies annual dinner to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Guest speaker: David Hirst, '80 Chair of World Languages at Normal West High School. Please contact Prof. Isabelli at cisabell@iwu.edu. Sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Studies and the Spanish Club.

October 12: 11:30 a.m. CNS C101 "Information Literacy en español"

Salvador Vergara from Instituto Cervantes Chicago will give a presentation on Information Literacy. This special event is especially geared toward our Spn 280 and Spn 303 students. A similar 4:30 workshop will be taking place for local high school Spanish educators in Ames 129. Please contact Prof. Ferradáns at cferrada@iwu.edu for more information. Sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Studies and the Ames Library.

For more information on Hispanic Heritage Month, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs at (309) 556-3412.

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